

# HIGHLIGHTS

April 2003

A Children & Youth Services Newsletter for Volunteers & Mentors of CYS-Project Together

Vol. XVIII, No. 4

## For Your Information...

The tour of Fire Station #26 in Irvine was a smash hit with the 25 Mentors and Mentees who attended the recent CYS-Project Together outing. After a hands-on look at life-saving and fire fighting equipment, the kids learned about fire safety and careers in the fire fighting field. Following the tour, the group gathered at Heritage Park for a scavenger hunt, lunch and games...

Thank you to Orange Lutheran High School student volunteers who helped compile the CYS-Project Together Resource Directory. Chris Webster, Megan Kramer, Ashley Shackelford, Shufen Wong, Megan Valverde and Michele Reilly-Rhoten completed community service project volunteer hours required, which is part of their theology curriculum. The students were intent on satisfying the project objectives, which included increasing their awareness of community needs as well as beginning a personal life-long commitment to volunteer service. The directory will be used by CYS-Project Together Volunteer Coordinators in assisting therapists locate resources in the community for CYS clients...

The CYS-Project Together Resource Center has toiletries and personal grooming items available for boys and girls of all ages. If you know of a CYS child or teenager in need of such items, please contact your Volunteer Coordinator...

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## Volunteers Are Special!

### Suzy Laros Finds Mentoring is a 2-Way Street

Patience, consistency & caring are key factors in successful mentoring of CYS clients.

CYS-Project Together Mentor Suzanne (Suzy) Laros has unlocked the heart of a 15-year-old girl, using the keys that seem to come naturally to her. She has been a Mentor in South Region/Laguna for the past four years and has been a friend and a confidant to this teenager who was isolated, depressed, defensive, anxious, fearful and unable to focus.

Suzy could identify with her mentee's feelings. Formerly an accounting manager for the California Tax Auditor, she finds that she has become more isolated herself since the birth of her son 14 months ago. She loves being a stay-at-home mom, but also cherishes the relationship mentoring provides.

During this relationship, according to her therapist, the teenager has become less abrasive, more approachable and better able to cope with her situation. Suzy says the girl has become "kinder and more considerate" towards her since her son was born and "she is great with my baby."

Suzy has served as a consistent and caring Mentor as well as an extremely positive accepting person in her life, who is willing to "talk about it." She has challenged her to have fun, be adventurous and to do things she has never done before.

However, Suzy finds that mentoring is a two-way street.

"This relationship has helped me approach things in different ways and



from different points of view," Suzy said. "It is not only an opportunity to go out and do things I would not have done otherwise, but I find it is positive to be around her."

"I see it as a two-way street in that it is a two-way relationship. Mentoring is just a good thing for me to do," she said. "I am interacting with someone around me who provides meaning to my life and I have an opportunity to go over things with the therapist regularly. This provides me a window to another world," according to Suzy.

Suzy includes other volunteer work with children in her life as well. In between mentoring and mothering, she finds time to do crafts, swim, hike, play golf, enjoy Country music and pursue her cooking interests.

—Information for this article was contributed by Lee Boon, CYS-Project Together Volunteer Coordinator in South Region/Laguna.

# APRIL 2003

## Calendar of Events

*The CYS-Project Together Calendar is a collection of affordable, fun, wholesome and interesting events that can be enjoyed by children, teens and adults. To submit an item for the calendar, please call (714)796-0100.*

### Friday-Sunday

#### April 4-6

#### America's Family Pet Expo

Orange County Fair & Exposition Center  
88 Fair Dr.

Costa Mesa

(626)447-2222

[www.wwpsa.com](http://www.wwpsa.com)

Time: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Cost:	Adults	\$8
	Seniors	\$5
	Children	\$3
	(up to 12)	

#### Saturday, April 12

#### Spring Eggstravaganza at Hart Park

701 Glassell

Orange

Join adults, teenagers and children for a pancake breakfast at 8 a.m. The egg hunt, which is for children up to 12 years of age, begins at 10:15 a.m.

Time:	8 a.m.	Breakfast
	10:15 a.m.	Hunt
Cost:	Breakfast	\$5
	Hunt	Free

#### Saturday, April 19

#### Volunteer Connection Day

Mission San Juan Capistrano

Camino Capistrano & Ortega Highway

(949)234-1300

Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Cost: Free

#### Saturday, April 19

#### Beach Clean Up

North Side of Pier at Tressel's

Parking Lot

San Clemente

(949)492-6688

This is a great way to experience nature and help your community as well. Participants receive a free T-shirt.

Time: 8 a.m.-Noon

Cost: Free

#### Saturday, April 19

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Oak Knoll Park

5700 Orange Ave.

Cypress

(714)229-6780

[www.ci.cypress.ca.us](http://www.ci.cypress.ca.us)

This annual event, sponsored by the Cypress Community Center, is recommended for children 12 and under.

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Cost: Free

#### Sunday, April 27

#### Cypress Festival of the Arts

Oak Knoll Park

5700 Orange Ave.

Cypress

(714)229-6780

[www.ci.cypress.ca.us](http://www.ci.cypress.ca.us)

This event kicks off Arts Week, which ends May 4. It features a craft fair as well as the best of the best in performing and visual arts. Check out the web site for the latest information on the week's activities, which includes art walks, adult art show and an array of performance expressions.

Time: Noon-5 p.m.

Cost: Free

#### Fridays

#### Edison Field Tour

2000 Gene Autry Way

Anaheim

(714)940-2046

Groups of 20 or more may tour the field beginning at the giant baseball cap, then on to home plate and behind the scenes. Individuals may call to make arrangements to join tour groups scheduled. The tour takes about 90 minutes.

Time: 9:30 a.m. Fridays only

Cost: Free

#### Sunday-Saturday

#### Disney Ice Skating

300 W. Lincoln Ave.

Anaheim

(714)535-7465

The public may skate in this premier ice skating facility seven days a week. Also available are hockey leagues, skating classes, broomball and the Mighty Ducks Pro Shop.

Time: Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.

3:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

7-9 p.m.

Saturday

1-3 p.m.

7-9 p.m.

9:30-11:30 p.m.

Sunday

1-3 p.m.

Cost: Including skate rental

Adults \$10.50

Children \$8.50

#### Daily

#### California Scenario

611 Anton

Costa Mesa

(714)384-5500

Sculptor Isamu Noguchi created this tranquil sculpture garden that covers two acres with abstract granite, sandstone and marble works of art with environmental themes.

Time: 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Cost: Free

#### Daily

#### Old Fashioned Roller Skating

Fountain Valley Skating Center

9105 Recreation Circle

Fountain Valley

(714)847-6300

Roller skate in an old-fashioned wooden rink that has been newly refurbished. Rent some skates or bring your own, if you have the right wheels. They have special games for kids and skate dance competitions for teenagers on week-ends. And, if you are a beginner, others will help "baby step" you along the wall, or at least pick you up off the floor. Due to special events schedule, call to confirm rink availability.

Time: 10 a.m.

Cost: Admission \$5

Skate rental \$2

## Mentoring Matters

### WELCOME NEW MENTORS

West Giancarlo Maniaci

### MENTOR POOL AWAITING RE-ASSIGNMENT

East Christine Lam

### THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE MOVED ON

North Cesar Santa Ana  
Lana Arellanez

West Jan-Michael Tompkins

## There's More Than One Way to Hug a Child...

The staff and clients of Children & Youth Services (CYS) and CYS-Project Together deeply appreciate the wonderful support provided by many local businesses and organizations. Our affiliation with the Mental Health Association of Orange County allows us to accept and distribute community resources that are an important asset in the therapeutic process for all the children we serve. Each month, we extend our thanks and give recognition to our caring donors.

<b>Camelot Golfland</b> Anaheim	<b>Laser Quest</b> Fullerton
<b>E-Machine</b> Irvine	<b>Tim and Jense Mizuo</b> La Mirada
<b>Ana Eustace</b> Anaheim	<b>Statek</b> Orange
<b>Irvine Lanes</b> Irvine	<b>Taco Bell Corp.</b> Irvine
<b>Young Joon Kim</b> Fullerton	

*Mentoring Is Magi*

*CYS-Project Together*

### *Mentor Recognition 2003*

Expect a bit of magic at the CYS-Project Together Annual Mentor Recognition Dinner and Awards Ceremony slated for Wednesday, April 23, 2003 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The event will be held at the UCI University Club at the University of California in Irvine. This year's theme is "Mentoring Is Magical" and conveys the important roles mentors play in the lives of children receiving County services through Children & Youth Services and its contract agencies.

CYS-Project Together Mentors are urged to make early reservations. Please respond by Wednesday, April 16, 2003, by calling CYS-Project Together at (714)796-0100 or e-mail

[CYSPT@hica.co.orange.ca.us](mailto:CYSPT@hica.co.orange.ca.us)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Tim Smith	4/1
Steffanie Young	4/1
Pat Lucas	4/6
Donna Goodman	4/7
Antonia Soria	4/7
Amy Niles	4/8
Leah Crain	4/10
Deirdre Kelly	4/11
David Udden, Jr.	4/13
Carolyn Kerna	4/18
Michael Khoo	4/18
Feei Ang	4/19
Star Lopez	4/28
Stephanie Illes	4/30

### Quotable Quote

*"Outings are so much more fun when we can savor them through the children's eyes."*

—Lowana Blackwell

# The Back Page



## Four CYS-Project Together Mentors Nominated

CYS-Project Together Mentors Debbie Campa, Nicole Mardaresco, Arthur Montes and Conrad Wilson are among the nominees from the Health Care Agency (HCA)/Children & Youth Services and Aspen Community Services for the Outstanding Volunteers of Orange County 2003 awards. One will be selected to represent HCA and be among the total of 40 honorees who will be recognized on April 30 by the County Board of Supervisors at the 7th Annual County-wide Volunteer Recognition as Orange County's Outstanding Volunteers of 2003. The County of Orange has 24,111 volunteers, who contributed 1,085,155 hours at a value of \$24,763,760 during 2002.

According to Sharon Modaff, Service Chief I, CYS-Project Together, "We're honored to recognize each of the Mentors nominated as outstanding volunteers for 2002/2003, and are grateful for the work they do on behalf of CYS clients."

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County of Orange Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Services  
Children and Youth Services/*Project Together*

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North ..... Sunney Shin ..... (714)577-5422

South/Costa Mesa ..... Jonathan Schiesel ..... (714)850-8444

South/Laguna ..... Lee Boon ..... (949)499-8614

West ..... Diane Prescott ..... (714)896-7570

Aspen/Santa Ana ..... Adrienne Davalos ..... (714)565-2830

Aspen/Tustin ..... Ken Cornwell ..... (714)508-1919

The Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Services/Children and Youth Services provides mental health treatment for emotionally and behaviorally disturbed youth and their families throughout Orange County. CYS-Project Together is a volunteer mentor program for CYS children and teens. The program also offers supportive resources to clients and families to assist them in achieving treatment goals. The program operates cooperatively with its community partner, the Mental Health Association of Orange County.



County of Orange Health Care Agency  
Behavioral Health Services/Children & Youth Services

## CYS-Project Together *Highlights*

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*Address Correction Requested*

